



My name is James Kerr and I'm the Chief of Police for Petersburg Police Department. I'm calling about HB 291.

This year Governor Dunleavy has drastically increased spending for Public Safety. Programs like WAVE (Working Against Violence for Everyone) provide support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault which continually prove to play a major role in Alaska Public Safety.

Petersburg Police Department relies heavily on WAVE when investigating Domestic Violence and Sexual Assaults. WAVE provides a vital part of the support and recovery process to victims of domestic violence and sexual assaults. WAVE supports these victims and lets them know they are not alone in the recovery process. Providing these victims, the knowledge, understanding, support and the strength to take control of their life are what programs like WAVE provide across the State of Alaska.

HB 291 also provides a standard of training to law enforcement agencies investigating domestic violence and sexual assaults by creating and providing DV/SA training programs. Without this type of cooperation law enforcement agencies across the state would have a difficult time keeping up to date on investigation standards and protocols.

The programs funded by HB 291 are working on the front lines for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. When you hear or read in the media about victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, I bet you think or wish you could have done something to prevent it or stopped it earlier. This is your time to do something about it and use your power to extend the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Thank you,

James Kerr
Chief of Police
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